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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,183	08/06/2001	Gerhard Engeser	GLA-53	9861

20311 7590 05/09/2003

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600 THIRD AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10016

EXAMINER

CHANG, RICK KILTAE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3729

DATE MAILED: 05/09/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/923,183

Applicant(s)

ENGESER, GERHARD

Examiner

Rick K. Chang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 February 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newman et al (US 5,711,689) in view of Dohi (US 4,966,565).

Newman discloses in Fig. 3 connecting 20, which is pressed onto the wire end, to 72, which is used to plug the contact piece to the connecting piece. Fig. 6 shows two connecting pieces and Fig. 4 shows one wire 14 to two connecting pieces in Fig. 6. 72 has a head that prevents 20 from coming off. Fig. 7 shows claim 9.

Newman fails to disclose laser welding.

Dohi discloses laser welding (Fig. 2a).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Newman by laser welding in place of a screw, as taught by Dohi, for the purpose of preventing the wires from coming off the leads prematurely.

3. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newman et al (US 5,711,689)/Dohi as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Pattanaik et al (US 6,046,882).

Newman/Dohi fail to disclose monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to welding.

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Pattanaik discloses monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to welding (col. 3, lines 48-52 and col. 5, lines 29-36) thereby ensuring the welding is performed to the proper pieces to ensure the components will perform according to the specification.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Newman/Dohi by monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to welding, as taught by Pattanaik, for the purpose of ensuring the welding is performed to the proper pieces to ensure the components will perform according to the specification.

4. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newman et al (US 5,711,689)/Dohi (US 4,966,565) as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, and further in view of Mattes (US 6,143,998).

Newman/Dohi fail to disclose simultaneously connecting two wires to the connecting pieces.

Mattes discloses simultaneously laser welding two areas by splitting the laser beams into two components (col. 2, lines 49-53) thereby decreasing production time.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Newman/Dohi by simultaneously connecting two wires to the connecting pieces by splitting the laser beams into two components, as taught by Mattes, for the purpose of decreasing production time.

5. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newman et al (US 5,711,689)/Dohi (US 4,966,565) as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, and further in view of Pattanaik et al (US 6,046,882).

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Seeberger/Dohi fail to disclose monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to welding.

Pattanaik discloses monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to welding (col. 3, lines 48-52 and col. 5, lines 29-36) thereby ensuring the welding is performed to the proper pieces to ensure the components will perform according to the specification.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Newman/Dohi by monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to welding, as taught by Pattanaik, for the purpose of ensuring the welding is performed to the proper pieces to ensure the components will perform according to the specification.

6. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newman et al (US 5,711,689)/Dohi (US 4,966,565) as applied to claims 1 and 2 above, and further in view of Official Notice.

Newman/Dohi fail to disclose encapsulating the workpiece after the laser welding.

Official Notice is taken that it is well known in the art to encapsulate the connection as shown in Newman/Dohi.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Newman/Dohi by encapsulating the workpiece after the laser welding, as taught by Official Notice, for the purpose of protecting the electrical connection from the environment.

7. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newman et al (US 5,711,689)/Dohi (US 4,966,565) as applied to claims 1 and 2 above, and further in view of Seeberger (US 6,240,618).

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Newman/Dohi fail to disclose performing by computer-control in a fully automatic manner.

Seeberger discloses performing fully automatic manner (col. 4, lines 31-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Newman/Dohi by performing fully automatic manner, as taught by Seeberger, for the purpose of saving labor cost.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3 and 5-12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Interviews After Final

9. Applicant note that an interview after a final rejection will not be granted unless the intended purpose and content of the interview is presented briefly, in writing (the agenda of the interview must be in writing) to clarify issues for appeal requiring only nominal further consideration. Interviews merely to restate arguments of record or to discuss new limitations will be denied. See MPEP 714.13 and 713.09.

Conclusion

10. Please provide reference numerals to all the claimed limitations as well as support in the disclosure for better clarity. Applicants are duly reminded that a full and proper response to this Office Action that includes any amendment to the claims and specification of the application as originally filed requires that the applicant point out the support for any amendment made to the disclosure, including the claims. See 37 CFR 1.111 and MPEP 2163.06.

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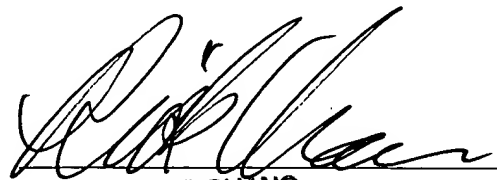
11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rick K. Chang whose telephone number is (703) 308-4784. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Monday through Friday, except for maxi-flex day off (any one of working days).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9302 for regular communications and (703) 872-9303 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.


RICHARD CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER